

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 2 of the specification with the following:

This object is achieved according to the invention by a filter element ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ and by a filter device ~~as claimed in claim 11~~. Preferred embodiments of the present invention are described below ~~the subject of the subclaims~~.

Please replace the first full paragraph starting on page 11 and continuing on to page 12 of the specification with the following:

Turning to FIGURES 1-8, a filter element F for fluids (i.e. liquids and/or gases with various contents, molecular or colloidal solutions, suspensions, emulsions, an aerosol, fume, liquid and/or gas mixture, etc.) according to a preferred embodiment of the invention is described below. The filter element F (FIGURE 1) has a hollow or tubular supporting core or supporting body 10 with a filtrate tube with through-openings for fluids on the circumferential surface of the tube 11, a first end plate 20 and a second end plate 30, which are formed in one piece or as a unit with the supporting core 10, and an outer carrier 16 with through-openings 16A. The filter element F also has between the supporting core 10 and the outer carrier 16 at least one filter layer 12-14 as a filter medium, which in the embodiment shown has an inner drainage or supporting layer 12, a membrane and/or a deep-bed filter 13 made up of fibers and an outer drainage or supporting layer 14. The membrane 12 for microfiltration may comprise a multiplicity of polymer materials (for example cellulose hydrate, cellulose acetate (CA), polyacrylonitrile, polysulfone (PSU), polyether sulfone (PESU), polyamide (PA), polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF), polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), polycarbonate (PC) and

polyalkylene, such as polypropylene (PP)), including in a modified form, for example as membrane adsorbers, which surround porous cavities. The pore size may lie between approximately 0.05 and 5 μm , dependent on the actual application. The thickness of the membrane 12 for microfiltration may lie between approximately 15 μm and approximately 250 μm . The filter element F represented is used particularly for static or dead-end filtration. However, it is likewise conceivable for a filter element of a modular construction according to the present invention also to be used for crossflow filtration.